



September 2022—Issue No. 8

Association Newsletter

Empowering Members To Empower Us All

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Executive Director

Celebrating HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

ESD has been growing fast in the Latin world and among Hispanics in the United States. We celebrate this work to empower and prevent violence! The Association's Finding ESD project is ongoing, but so far we know of ESD practices in Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica, Argentina, Chile, and Brazil. In addition, there has been at least one Spanish-language instructor training in the US. This will translate to ESD classes taught in Spanish throughout Southern California and across the country.

From Autodefensa Femininja to ESDG-LAC, Aliadas de la Vida to Mujeres Fuertes, Movimiento Autodefesa to Atalanta Autodefensa, amazing instructors are helping people who face or risk facing abuse and violence. ESD professionals are working with their governments, the UN, and NGOs to bring ESD to locations throughout Latin America. For instance, Aliadas de la Vida, led by Dayra Fyah and her team of instructors, is filling a particularly keen need in Ecatatepec, Mexico, one of the many places where levels of violence against women and femicide rates are extraordinarily high. According to the UN, especially since COVID, there has been an increase in violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean. The need for empowerment self-defense has never been more apparent—empowering people through ESD instruction may be the most important step we can take to stop these attacks and change the culture of violence.

The voices of Latinas and people of all genders who have risked expressing their opposition to violence have never been louder and more powerful than they are now. This is the moment for the ESD community to expand and empower every person who has elevated their voice against violence, this is the moment to empower Latinx women and men from countries in the Americas and throughout the world with empowerment self-defense.

Do you know ESD instructors or other ESD professionals in Latin America or the Hispanic community worldwide? Please contact us at hello@esdprofessionals.org and share.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Credentialing

Last chance to sign up for Period One!

Registration for the Association Credentialing Exams is OPEN. You can register for Period One (September 19-25) or Period Two (November 7-13), but time is almost up to register for Exam Period One. Find the application and learn more on our [exam webpage](#).

Registration Is Open!!!

Sign Up for the 2022
Credentialing Exam



September 19-25
or November 7-13

www.esdprofessionals.org/exam



Organizational Membership

Organizational Membership is a great option for ESD practices with at least three team members. Whether you hire employees or contractors, team members receive extra discounts on credentialing, events, individual memberships, and more. Learn more on our [membership web page](#).

ESD AROUND THE WORLD

As always, we are thrilled to share with you ESD-related events and initiatives around the world. Think something or someone should be included in next month's newsletter? Reach out to us at hello@esdprofessionals.org.

SVRI Forum

19-23 September, Cancún, Mexico

SVRI Forum is the largest global, abstract-driven research and advocacy conference on violence against women and children, and this year it is being held in beautiful Cancún, Mexico. It brings together researchers, funders, practitioners, policymakers, activists, and survivors every two years to connect, learn and share.

The Forum is an opportunity to learn about the newest innovations for preventing and responding to gender-based violence in low- and middle-income countries and to meet influential researchers and practitioners in the fields of violence against women and children.



Register for SVRI [here](#).

To learn about additional conferences happening around the world, visit our [Worldwide Conferences page](#).

CALL FOR INNOVATION GRANT CONCEPT NOTE APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale Programme is seeking concept note applications from women-led WROs in the global south and feminist organisations to apply for a 3-year grant to pilot innovations on how to prevent violence against women and girls.

Grant Opportunity!

Apply by September 30, 2022

"What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale Programme" is currently seeking concept note applications from program implementers in the global south. Apply for a 3-year grant to scale up evidence-based violence prevention for programs targeting violence against women and girls. Find out more [here](#).

ESD AROUND THE WORLD

PAVE Summit

September 19-21, Chicago, USA

PAVE Prevention, Inc., a social enterprise dedicated to creating safer, more productive workplaces and communities around the world, is hosting a 2.5-day summit to create fundamental change and redefine workplace violence. Over three days in downtown Chicago, leaders from multiple industries will collaborate on a modern approach to workplace-violence prevention, creating innovative, sustainable solutions and safer, more equitable workforces and cultures. After the Summit, PAVE will be releasing its PAVE Report.



The Association's Executive Director Samantha Waterman will be attending the event to listen, learn, and collaborate on first steps toward a platform for our Advocacy & Lobbying Program!

We would love to see you there! Register [here](#).



#StepUpMigrantWomen

Step Up Migrant Women (SUMW) is a campaign by and for migrant Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) women led by the [Latin American Women's Rights Service](#) (LAWRS) in the UK. The SUMW coalition is formed of more than 50 organisations that work and advocate to support migrant women to access protection from abuse.

Check out this ongoing campaign [here](#).

"Reporting to the police should not be more dangerous than staying with the perpetrator."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Registration for the first [Association Credentialing Exam](#) is OPEN.
- Please consider joining the Association of ESD Professionals. Our new member portal is ready for you! If you would like to join or just learn more about membership and benefits, please visit our [Membership webpage](#).
- Our monthly ESD Circle with Sheila Watson is happening on September 8, 2022 at 4-5pm GMT! This month's theme? Self-care. Register [here](#).
- The next Office Hours with Tom Rose will be on September 29, 2022 at 4-5pm GMT featuring special guest Gentiana Susaj! Register [here](#).
- Check out our latest blog about preparing for the Association Credentialing Exam! We hope this blog helps take the pressure off as it provides helpful tips to get you feeling prepared and stress-free before the exam: [What to Expect from the Credentialing Exam](#).
 - Want to contribute to the Association blog? Reach out to Toby at toby@esdprofessionals.org.
- Check out our latest How-To guide, [How To ... Choose For-Profit or Non-Profit for your ESD Practice](#). Breaking down a complex and critical topic for ESD professionals in a really approachable way.
 - Would you like to see a new How To on a specific subject? Let us know at hello@esdprofessionals.org.
- Don't miss our wonderful new video featuring many of YOU. Watch it [here](#) and check out other Association videos on the [Association YouTube channel](#).



A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's almost fall in the Northern Hemisphere, nearly spring south of the equator. I can't believe it, it feels like the beginning of July to me. But here above the equator, schools are starting up, kids are getting their books ready, and while the leaves may be dropping, to me it feels like a season of beginnings. Down south, it's nearly the season of birth and growth. For the Association, no matter the hemisphere, it feels like one long season of continuous growth.

We recently launched our inaugural Credentialing Program and have started taking applications for the 2022 exam periods. We are excited about the opportunities this will open up for ESD professionals around the world. Want to work with the UN? They may ask for a credential. Your local school district wants to see some paperwork before they invite you teach their students? A credential will do the trick. Want to take referrals from the courts (and in the US, have them covered by Medicare)? The Association will advocate for courts and other government agencies to accept ESD credentials instead of requiring you go back to school for social work degrees. Which leads me to the next new thing.

This September, we will begin creating our development plan for the Advocacy & Lobbying Program. We will research issues and legislation of interest to ESD professionals at conferences, online, and through surveys to you and other ESD professionals. I will be reaching out to ESD leaders to ask them about their priority issues and goals. We will be looking to ESD professionals like you to help us prioritize grassroots campaigns and lobbying efforts so that we develop a program that reflects the priorities of the greater ESD community. We will also be asking you to recommend ESD, violence-prevention, women's and equal rights organizations and campaigns with whom we can partner, because by joining together, we can amplify our voices and become even more impactful.

Finally, we are getting our membership portal polished up, which doesn't sound very exciting, but having that completed will make registration for membership and events much easier and communications among members more fun. And for our staff here at the Association, it will free up time for us to focus on community outreach, bringing members new programs and resources, working with advisory councils to build the continuing education and accreditation programs, designing our online magazine, and building the advocacy program.

Thank you for checking out our newsletter and for practicing empowerment self-defense.

Cheers!
Samantha